

Dundore Farm (Hottenstein Farm)
.2 mi. S of State Rte. 183, .5 mi. NE
of Church Road
Mount Pleasant vicinity
Penn Township
Berks County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-261

HABS,
PA.
6 - MTPLES.V,
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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Reduced Copy of Measured Drawing

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SUREVEY HABS No. PA-261

DUNDORE FARM (Hottenstein Farm)

Location:

.2 mile south of State Route 183 (Bernville Rd.) on private road, .5 mile northeast of Church Road (LR06048), approximately 1 mile west of Mount Pleasant, Penn Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

USGS Bernville Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 18.407910.4473490.

Moved in 1978 to be operated as a museum to: Old Dry Roads Farm, Inc. (formerly the Kermit-Stoudt Farm), .3 mile east of T534 on private road, .5 mile north of Rebers Bridge Road (LR06056), approximately 2 miles northeast of Brownsville, Brownsville Vicinity, Lower Heidelberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.

Present Owner:

United States Government

Present Use:

Demolished and major buildings relocated for Blue Marsh Lake project, sponsored by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Significance:

This is a good example of a nineteenth-century Pennsylvania German family farm. Although once very prosperous, the farm failed to adjust to agricultural modernization in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and became a marginal farming enterprise. Consequently, the farmers were unable to make constant improvements and the farm offers many points of study unavailable in more prosperous and improved farms.

Most importantly, because of the farm's relative stagnation in the twentieth century, the architectural and planning fabric of the farmstead ensemble (termed die Bauerei) provides a fine example of early nineteenth-century Pennsylvania German farm planning. The layout of the buildings reveals great sensitivity for the contour of the land, with the visual and functional relationships between the major farm buildings being particularly outstanding. The

farmhouse and springhouse are of historical interest because of their traditional log construction, while the frame barn is noteworthy because of its unusual length and age (1788). A log smokehouse is also a rare survival among Pennsylvania German farmsteads.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of erection: The present log farmhouse was probably built circa 1840. There was undoubtedly an earlier farmhouse, probably a pioneer log structure, built circa 1775. Logs from that building may have been reused in this, or perhaps logs were salvaged from another building, because there are numerous cuts in the logs which have no function in the present structural system.

The frame barn appears to be one of the earliest structures on the farm; an inscription over one of the Dutch doors on the ground floor reads "1788."

The log springhouse has the inscription "1842" on the chinking, although the building may incorporate material from the original eighteenth-century springhouse. Other buildings erected circa 1840 include the granary and the root cellar. The log smokehouse probably dates from the early nineteenth century, but the trim may have been salvaged from an earlier building. The log corn crib - wagon shed, located near the house, dates from circa 1850, while the nearby wood shed, used as a garage in the twentieth century, was another nineteenth-century structure. All of the above structures except for the root cellar will be moved to Old Dry Roads Farm, Inc.

The wheat barn, demolished in 1976, was a nineteenth-century structure, and the log wagon shed, demolished in 1975, was built in the late 1850s using parts of other structures. The corn crib behind the wheat barn, demolished in 1976, was first built in the twentieth century on another farm and moved there circa 1953. Other twentieth-century structures scheduled to be demolished are the milk shed, the two chicken houses, and the pig barn.

Information for the above approximations of dates of construction came from Tom Jones of Old Dry Roads Farm, Inc., August 31, 1977.

2. Architect: None. As in the case of nearly all Pennsylvania German farms there was no architect in the formal sense for any of the buildings. A few of the smaller outbuildings were obviously planned and executed by the resident farmers, but the farmhouse, barn, and other larger outbuildings were planned and executed under the direct supervision of a master builder or carpenter.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The following is an incomplete chain of title to the land on which the house is located. Chain of title information for Berks County before circa 1875 is vague and often incomplete, so this data is based on educated guesses using the best available information. Reference is to the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Berks County, except where noted.

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1750 | Deed dated March 23, 1750, recorded in
Book Vol. 14 page 581 (County of Philadelphia)
Thomas and Richard Penn
to
Wendel Brecht (Breght, Bryard, or Bright) |
| 1752 | Deed dated December 6, 1752, recorded October 16,
1765 in Book 4 page 296
Wendel Brecht and Mary Elizabeth, his wife
to
Jacob Miller |
| 1771 | Deed dated June 11, 1771, recorded April 27, 1822
in Book 32 page 298
Jacob Miller and Elizabeth, his wife
to
Jacob Dundore |
| 1786 | Deed dated July 4, 1786, recorded April 27, 1822
in Book 32 page 310
Jacob Dundore and Mary, his wife
to
John Dundore (their son) |

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- 1804 Deed dated January 13, 1804, recorded March 4,
1837 in Book 44 page 246
John Dundore and Catherine, his wife
to
Jacob Dundore (their son)
- 1815 Deed dated May 11, 1815, recorded July 18, 1815
in Book 28 page 101
Jacob Dundore
to
Christian Dundore (his youngest brother)
- ca. 1835 Deed unrecorded
Christian Dundore
to
John Adam Dundore (his brother)
- ca. 1850 Deed unrecorded
John Adam Dundore
to
Adam E. Dundore (his son)
- 1911 Adam E. Dundore died, leaving property to his
daughters, Valerie D. Feather, Sara D. Rohrbach,
and Eleanore D. Kunkel; deed unrecorded.
- 1912 Deed dated April 4, 1912, recorded April 6, 1912
in Book 398 page 444
Valerie D. Feather and Edwin, her husband, Sara
D. Rohrbach and Jacob H., her husband, and
Eleanor D. Kunkel, all heirs of Adam E. Dundore
to
George D. Fahrenbach
- 1919 George D. Fahrenbach died, leaving property to an
estate with Frank A. Fahrenbach, George W.
Fahrenbach, and John Fahrenbach as Executors;
deed unrecorded.
- 1920 Deed dated April 15, 1920, recorded June 18, 1920
in Book 506 page 246
Heirs of George D. Fahrenbach
to
Frederick Wolfskill

- 1930 Deed dated April 4, 1930, recorded April 5, 1930
in Book 705 page 479
Frederick Wolfskill and Katie, his wife
to
William Wolfskill and Mary, his wife
- 1949 Deed dated December 21, 1949 recorded December
22, 1949
in Book 1050 page 546
Mary D. Wolfskill, widow of William Wolfskill
to
Curtis C. Hottenstein and Elsie M., his wife

4. Alterations and Additions: Nearly all the buildings on the farm have undergone alteration and additions over time. The spirit of improvement was all-pervasive in Pennsylvania German folk culture, and this resulted in a constant effort to upgrade farm assets. This was particularly true in regard to this farm in the mid nineteenth century when it enjoyed its greatest period of prosperity. The barn, for example, was greatly expanded circa 1850 by the addition of a 36'-6" section to the western end. The stone from the original stone western end wall was probably used to construct the foundations for the addition since the present western end wall is wood while the eastern end wall is stone.

In terms of twentieth century alterations and additions, however, what is significant is what is missing: for example, there is no silo, no metal cattle feeding apparatus, very little paint on the buildings, and little improvement to the long approach lane.

B. Historic Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

From 1771 to 1912, the farm was in the possession of the Dundores, who were probably responsible for most the structures and improvements on the farm. The farm is occasionally referred to as the "old Dundore homestead" in local history books, and seems rightfully to be the cradle of the extensive Dundore family. Jacob Dundore, Benneville Dundore, and Adam Dundore's names and the dates 1842 can be seen written on the chinking on the south wall of the springhouse. There are also Dundore names written on the walls of the barn granary.

Christian Dundore established relations with the Union Canal Company from the late 1820s, and probably constructed the granary which was used to store and transfer grain to canal boats. There is also evidence that there may have been a canal boat storage area about 100' north northwest of the granary. The Dundores clearly profited handsomely from their close association with the Union Canal; they acted as middle men, offering storage to neighboring farmers.

The Dundores lost control of the farm in 1912, following Adam E. Dundore's death. George D. Fahrenbach, the Berks County Sheriff and the owner of the adjoining John Conrad Farm, purchased the farm from the estate of Adam E. Dundore at this point.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Primary and Unpublished Sources:

Dundore Family Genealogy Charts, prepared by Dr. Arthur Graeff; now in the possession of Marie Graeff, Wernersville, Pa.

Letters from Rev. I. N. Dundore, Myerstown, Pa., a Dundore family historian, dated August 3, 1976 and August 14, 1976 (see D. Supplemental Material).

Photographs, deeds, maps, and other memorabilia in the possession of Tom Jones, Pennsylvania Log Cabin Society, Schaefferstown, Pa.

Interviews with Curtis Hottenstein, Bernville, Pa., the last private owner of the farm; July and August, 1976.

Interviews with Beatrice Sheidy, Bernville, Pa., a local historian; June, July, and August, 1976.

Interviews with Marie Graeff, Wernersville, Pa., a local historian and Dundore family member; June, July, and August, 1976.

Interview with John Wolfskill, Bernville, Pa., a former owner of the farm; July 28, 1976.

Interview with Rev. I. N. Dundore, Myerstown, a Dundore family historian; August 2, 1976.

Interviews with Kermit Stoudt, Sinking Springs, Pa., a long time local resident and farmer; June, July, and August, 1976.

2. Photographs: Curtis Hottenstein, Bernville, Pa., has in his possession an aerial photograph taken about 1953 showing the entire farmstead in great detail. Tom Jones, Schaefferstown, Pa., has in his possession an extensive set of photographs taken of many of the farm buildings at the time of purchase by the government. Especially valuable are photographs of the wagon shed, corn crib, and wheat barn that are now demolished.

3. Secondary Sources:

- Arthur, Eric, and Dudley Whitney. The Barn, A Vanishing Landmark in North America. Greenwich, Conn.: New York Graphic Society, 1972, esp. pp. 84-113.
- Dornbusch, Charles H., and John K. Heyl. Pennsylvania German Barns. Allentown, Pa.: The Pennsylvania German Folklore Society, Vol. 21, 1958.
- Dundore, Nathan, A Genealogical Record Of The Dundore Family in America. Philadelphia: A.T. Zeising & Co., 1881
- Klees, Frederick. Pennsylvania Dutch. New York: MacMillann, 1950.
- Long, Amos, Jr. The Pennsylvania German Family Farm: A Regional Architectural and Folk Cultural Study of an American Agricultural Community. Brienigsville, Pa.: The Pennsylvania German Society, Vol. VI, 1972.
- Meiser, George, IX. "Historical Survey of Blue Marsh Project Area." Historical Review of Berks County XXXVI (Summer, 1971), 98-110; general study with good map of the area and the local landmarks.
- Molets, John G. "Blue Marsh Buildings Studied." Reading Eagle (July 27, 1976), 13; feature article on HABS with a photograph of the Brecht-Dundore barn.
- Montgomery, Morton. Historical and Biographical Annals of Berks County Pa. Chicago: J.H. Beers & Co., 1909. See "Adam E. Dundore", pp. 883-884.
- Moser, Nick. "Penn Township." Reading Sunday Eagle Magazine (December 1, 1957), 1-3.
- "Saving a Farm", Reading Eagle (September 17, 1975), 29; feature article on the farm with photographs of the house, summer house, and smokehouse.

D. Supplemental Material

1. Letter dated August 3, 1976, to Corps of Engineers from I.N. Dundore, R.D. 3, Myerstown, Pa 17067.

Gentlemen:

Will you please give this letter to the gentleman in charge of the historical part of the drafting work that is being done on the erstwhile Curtis Hottenstein-Dundore estate. He gave me a very courteous reception on a visit to the place yesterday, and I should like to return the favor with a tabulation of information I have that may be helpful to him.

Penn proprietors to Stephen Brecht tract of land divided among three sons: David, Hans Wendell, George Adam. 1750

Hans Wendell Brecht to Jacob Miller June 11, 1771. Miller was an intermediary or land speculator. The same year (1771) he conveyed Wendell's tract to Jacob Dundore who made it his home. Dundore's wife was a daughter of Hans Wendell Breacht.

Jacob Dundore sold the farm to his oldest son, John Jacob in 1786. Recorder of Deeds Vol. 32, p. 310.

The foresaid John sold the property to his oldest son, Jacob. 1804. Vol. 44, p. 246.

This Jacob sold the property to his youngest brother 1815. Vol. 28, p. 101. The name is Christian.

Christian owned and occupied the property during the construction of the Union Canal which opened to traffic in 1827. He remained in possession until 1835-36 when he relocated in Lebanon County. I am sorry I do not know to whom he sold out, but it should not be difficult to ascertain that from the court records.

Christian must have fared well financially through the construction of the canal. Whether he owned and operated the "port" and "grain elevator" or whether that was a company project is not known. Certainly access to it by land was across his land and he must have been compensated for the use of it. He became a quite wealthy man by the standards of his day, and it is more likely than not that most of his profits came from his dealings with the Canal Company rather than from the farm.

Hoping this will be of some help, I am,

Respectfully yours,

I.N. Dundore

2. Letter dated August 3, 1976, to Thomas Kheel from I.N.
Dundore, R.D. 3, Myerstown, Pa. 17067.

Dear Mr. Kheel:

Among my scrambled notes I find two items about Christian Dundore and the Union Canal that I submit in case they might be helpful in pursuit of your assigned project. One is a receipt in the sum of \$250 paid by the Canal Co. to Christian D. for a quit claim to a bridge to be built on his land across the canal. The date is April 7, 1826. It would be interesting to know where and what for this bridge was built.

The other item is the deed to a parcel of ground 1 acre 113 perches in area conveyed by Christian D. to the Canal Company under date of January 2, 1829. The sum realized was only 43.25. Might this have been the site of the "grain elevator" and the port "harbor" or was it just an odd corner of land of little use for any purpose?

Christian sold the property in 1835 presumably to John Adam D. judging by the inscriptions on the log chinking of the spring house. That information is of little use since there were numerous John Adam's. It tells us, however, that the property was still in Dundore hands in 1842. I am told that at some time along the line it was seized by the sheriff. May be then it passed out of Dundore hands, but I have no idea when that might have been. If I ever get a chance to visit the Reading Court House I will try to trace the title until the government took over.

I am inclined to think that the monogram IHS surrounding the date 1788 was meant to be the equivalent of A.D. The date stone stands at the jointure of the stone and log portions of the barn. 1788 was one year before the initial Jacob died. Evidently the stone section was built earlier. Whether it was built by him or his father-in-law, Wendell Brecht, is not known. Considering the way the initial Jacob disposed of his property the real builder of the log addition was his oldest son John. Possibly the section marked off by a ladder leading to an upper loft, as you pointed out, was a later addition necessitated by the increased productivity of this fertile creek bottom land or by bringing under cultivation some hitherto uncleared acres.

The remains of a homestead on a knoll behind the barn are probably not within your province, but it raises an interesting question. Why was it put there? Some have surmised that it was the original residence. You objected on the ground that it is too far from the spring. I think you are right. Still I have known of early settlers building their houses some distance from the spring in order to be on high ground. They put up with the inconvenience of trudging excessively for their water intending as soon as possible to dig a well. Then water was to be had handily with rope and bucket or windlass; eventually with a pump fashioned out of a log. I wonder whether the site has been searched for an old well or a wet weather spring. I saw the place first last fall. Then there was a trickle of water across the lane at the entrance to the barnyard. Whence did it come?

Big farms usually had homes for tenant labor families on duty the year round. May be that is what these ruins once were. A puzzling feature of the division of the farm in 1804 was its disparateness. John and Catherine D. conveyed on the purchase-bequest plan 199 acres to their oldest son, John Jacob and only 47 acres to their second oldest son, John Adam. I have not figured out the answer to that puzzle yet. Clearly there were two residences on the place on opposite sides of the main barn. The positioning of the buildings is puzzling too. Usually because of the greater vulnerability of barns to lightning and fire, barns were built east of houses. In 1815 John Jacob sold his 199 acres to his youngest brother Christian, and that brings us to the canal era.

I see by your stationery that you are working for the Department of the Interior. A man by the name of Nivert contacted me several years ago about writing for them. Somehow a history of a parish I served in western Pennsylvania fell into his hands. Much of it had to do with the antecedents of the membership who were Palatine Germans. Mr. Nivert wanted more of the same sort of thing. There were many pockets of Palatine German settlers west of the Alleghenies. Their descendants do not know who they are. If they do, they are a bit ashamed of being of German extraction. The Pennsylvania German Society is parochial in outlook. Its western horizon is the Alleghenies. West of them is a subject that should be researched and written up. I would be glad to undertake it but my capacity for work is at an end. Here is the Union Canal, a marvel of engineering. While it has been pretty well covered, it has not been in one comprehensive volume that I know of. Much about the Union Canal has been forgotten. Near my residence there is a large dam that was once a feeder for the Union Canal. Hardly any one around here knows why the dam is here and how it got here. I would like to tramp the tow path of the Union Canal from end to end, but that is out. I hope I haven't bored you.

Yours truly,

P.S. Since writing the foregoing letter I have ascertained that out of the 199 acres Christian Dundore acquired from his oldest brother John Jacob he sold:

1824 to his brother Philip 71 acres 790 pounds

1829 to Union Canal Company 1 acre 113 perches \$43.25

This small price is conceivably to be explained by an agreement to pay a royalty on shipments via the port located here.

1835 to another brother, John Adam, the residue of the acreage and the buildings thereon, 126 acres. By this acquisition John Adam built the meager acreage he got from his parents, 47, up to 173 including the homestead.

John Adam had twelve children by two wives. The names of two by the first wife were Benneville and Jacob written on the chinking of the log springhouse. On the corner stone of this structure are to be found chiseled the initial W. ? D. These probably stand for William Ernst Dundore, the youngest son of the second marriage. Thus three brothers collaborated in the building of the spring house. William E. moved to Tiffin, Ohio. John Adam divided his farm between the remaining two sons of his second marriage, Samuel and Adam. The portion containing the buildings fell to Adam E. (E for Ernest his mother's maiden name) Thus the point of departure for tracing the subsequent ownership of the property on which you are working is Adam E. The date is in the proximity of 1850, the year of John Adam's death. According to Montgomery's history of Berks County the property was still in Dundore hands in 1908. John Adam apparently was a man of some substance probably due to the Canal which was at the peak of service in his time. Operation ceased around 1886. Thereafter the Dundore fortunes at this place declined. That hump beside the grain elevator. Might not that be the remains of an abutment and ramp of the bridge referred to previously? That would fill the need for means for raising loaded wagons to the level of the top of the granary to facilitate unloading.

Jacob I did his farming during Revolutionary War times. In war time the demand and prices for farm products are high. Philadelphia was not far away. Jacob was within range of foraging parties from both armies. The British had the advantage in point of cash with which to pay for what they took. Jacob had no choice but to sell to both sides on demand. It was money in his pocket both ways. Since one of his sons saw military service in the American army there can be no question of which side he favored.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This is a good example of a well-planned ensemble of early nineteenth-century Pennsylvania German farm buildings in Southeastern Pennsylvania. The farmhouse (das Bauerhaus) is a traditionally plain, self-effacing log dwelling with typically tall and narrow proportions. The farmstead is distinguished by a large, stone-ended, bank barn (die Scheier), and a small, log smokehouse.
2. Condition of fabric: Poor to fair.

B. Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: The main block of the house is two-and-a-half stories tall, measuring 32'-6" across its four-bay front by 26'-8" deep.
2. Foundations: The foundation is constructed of randomly laid rough limestone masonry with some blocks of reddish sandstone mixed in. The corners are crudely quoined.
3. Wall construction, finish, and color: The exterior walls are hand-hewn logs with mud chinking between the members. The gables are sheathed over with clapboards painted light green, as were the exterior walls until recently.
4. Structural system: The exterior walls are constructed of hand-hewn logs set closely on top of one another to form massive bearing walls. This traditional Pennsylvania German structural system employs corner posts with angled knee braces to stabilize the corners, rather than dovetailed joints. All four walls have a post at about the halfway mark to stabilize the wall and to obviate the need for long logs. Most interior walls, however, are lightweight, stud framing. All log joints are pegged in mortise and tenon fashion with Roman numerals clearly numbering many log members. There is no ridge pole in the attic; lapped and pegged joints provide the central roof connection instead. The logs and angle braces are made primarily of oak.

5. Porches: The 6'-9" deep porch running the full length of the front (east) of the farmhouse has four slightly chamfered columns forming three structural bays across the front. All porch columns are lifted slightly from the floor of the porch by metal supporting brackets.

A porch measuring 16'-4" long and 6'-9" deep on the rear (west) facade of the house was enclosed about 1950, but the walls and roof have recently been removed. The built-in supports of the porch, however, are still visible in the wall fabric. Entry to this porch is from the lawn by way of a three-step concrete stairway. Both front and back porches have concrete floors.

6. Chimneys: There is a brick chimney beginning at the attic floor which runs just inside the south end wall piercing the roof on center. There are holes in the floor and the brickwork to accept pipes from iron heating stoves formerly used on the living floors below. A large brick fireplace and chimney in the north end wall of the house to provide a cooking space and family hearth was removed circa 1960.

7. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: A single-light, wood-paneled door provides the main entry into the house through the front porch. Another single-light, wood-paneled door gives access to the rear of the house through the rear porch. The cellar level of the house is entered from the outside through a set of slanting wood doors at the south end of the front porch.
- b. Windows and shutters: The windows on the first floor have primarily six-over-two-light, double hung sash. The kitchen window, however, is a modern, one-over-one-light sash. The windows on the second floor and in the attic gables are primarily six-over-six-light, double hung sash. There are no shutters on any of the windows, though a few windows are equipped with wood-framed storm windows.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The gable roof was originally covered with split wood shingles (the bottoms of which can be seen in the attic), but is now covered over by tin sheets with folded standing ridges, painted green. The front porch roof has been treated in a similar manner.

C. Description of Interior

1. Floor plans:

- a. First floor: The first-floor plan conforms to Pennsylvania German planning traditions. The north half is one large room, originally the kitchen (die kich). The south half is divided into two rooms, the parlor (die schtubb) in the front of the house and the parents' or grandparents' bedroom (die kammer) in the rear. Unlike many houses of its type, this one has only one front door, in the north end providing access to the kitchen.
- b. Second floor: The stairway in the northwest corner leads to a short hallway, off of which four bedrooms originally opened. One of these bedrooms, in the north end of the west facade, has been subdivided into a bathroom and an unused open space.
- c. Basement: The basement, a single undivided space, is used to house modern service equipment and to provide storage and work space.

2. Stairways: The stairways connecting the first and second floors and the second and attic floors are located in the northwest corner of the house. Enclosed in wooden walls and composed of tight, winding risers, the stairway is known locally as a schnecke or snail stairway type. The basement is reached by two straight-run stairways, one from the kitchen and the other from the front porch.
3. Flooring: The first floor has random width, pine flooring, except in the kitchen which has been covered over with linoleum. All the rooms on the second floor also have random-width, pine flooring, except the bathroom which has been covered with red carpet tiles. The floor of the attic is made up of tongue and groove planks, while the basement floor is concrete and packed earth.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls in the kitchen are finished with modern, lumberyard paneling, while the front room walls are plastered and painted light blue. The back room on the first floor has decorative wallpaper pasted over the plaster. All the rooms on the second floor are plastered and painted light blue.

5. Doorways and doors: All doorways are surrounded by simple moldings, and all doors are composed of wood panels. All doors and moldings are painted white.
6. Decorative features and trim: All rooms have simple baseboards painted white. All rooms, except the kitchen and bathroom, have chair rails built into the walls. All the windows and closets are surrounded by simple wood trim painted white.
7. Hardware: Simple wrought-iron door latches with porcelain knobs appear on most doors, though some have been recently salvaged. Modern hardware appears on a few doors and windows.
8. Mechanical equipment:
 - a. Lighting: Most of the rooms are fitted with early versions of modern electrical fixtures, usually mounted in the ceiling in the center of each room.
 - b. Heating: There are at present no fireplaces in the house, though there was one in the north wall of the kitchen until about 1960. A modern, oil-fired, central furnace provides hot water heat to all the rooms in the house through baseboard radiators.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The farmhouse faces east (towards State Route 183) and is sited at the peak of a small knoll overlooking the barn and the other outbuildings. The Tulpehocken Creek runs about 500 feet to the west of the farmstead, but the bed of the now defunct Union Canal is within 100 feet of the farmhouse and barn. The farmstead is approached down a long private lane (approximately .2 mile in length) which serves to separate the farm from the main public road.
2. Landscape design: As in the case of nearly all Pennsylvania German farmsteads, there was never a professional attempt to design the farm landscape. The farmstead exhibits the typical Pennsylvania German sensitivity to the rolling contour of the land, however, with the buildings placed on the land in convenient and visually satisfying ways that take full advantage of the complexities of the site. The barn, for example, is sited to allow for multi-story entry, while the house sits in a commanding place in order to oversee the entire workings of the farm. The site has been well planted with trees (including some magnificent willows), shrubs, and flowers. There is an especially fine wisteria tree twisted around a rose arbor at the front of the sidewalk leading to the farmhouse.

3. Outbuildings:

- a. Barn: This extremely long (116'-5" X 37'-2") bank barn is a typical example of Pennsylvania German barn planning and construction. The barn is oriented to the south which serves to protect the space below the projecting forebay (also known as the vorbau, vorschuss, overhang, overshoot, or overshoot) from the prevailing northerly winds in the colder months. The forebay also provides shelter for the five doors leading into the first floor of the barn. The barn has been extended 36'-6" on the western end; the original part of the barn is four structural bays long, while the addition is two structural bays long. The east end wall of the barn is constructed of randomly laid limestone up to the beginning of the gable; it has narrow ventilation slits built into the masonry. The front and back walls of the first floor are also constructed of randomly laid limestone masonry. The west end wall is wood above the first floor, indicating that the stones from the original stone west end wall were used to build the foundation of the addition; the original west end wall foundation was retained, however, with no doors cut between the new and the old part of the barn on the first floor.

The plan of the two main floors of the barn is typical of the Pennsylvania German bank barn. The lower floor to the foundation wall of the original west end wall is essentially one continuous room. The floor is concrete with a gutter provided for automatic barn cleaning equipment. The feeding apparatus, however, is the traditional wood type. The first floor of the addition is also essentially one continuous room which has been subdivided into stalls or stables primarily for the use of horses and heifers. The rear stone wall of the first floor has a concrete block wall constructed directly in front of it in order to pass state milk regulations. The remaining interior walls have been heavily plastered and whitewashed. The front wall of the first floor of the barn was originally entered through any of eleven doorways. These doorways were originally split, two-piece, "Dutch" doors, but several have been permanently fastened shut with the upper doors being replaced with nine- and twelve-light, single-sash windows. Because baled hay and straw is far heavier than loose hay and straw, iron or steel columns have been placed under the main supporting beams on the first floor. A small implement shed (demolished 1976) once stood against the west end of the barn on the first floor. An entry door in the first floor of the west end wall connected the shed to the barn.

The plan of the second level of the barn is also typical, although elongated because of the barn's unusual length. The central area, as entered by four sets of large barn doors on the unphill side, was originally used as a threshing floor and has partition walls between the bays to contain the grain being processed. The bays to the left and right were storage mows for straw and hay. The first and second levels are joined by a series of "hay holes" through which hay and straw were dropped for use on the first floor. An enclosed set of three grain storage bins (known as the granary) is in the front of the east end bay. There are Dundore family inscriptions written on the walls of this granary. The second floor is only one story high and, thus, provides only minimal haylofts. There is consequently only one built-in ladder to provide access to the storage area under the roof, and this is located in the addition. Because of the truncated height of the second floor, the roof dominates the long sides of the barn when viewed from the outside.

The barn, never completely painted, has weathered to a uniform dull gray finish. The vertical plank siding is severely weatherbeaten at many points. The siding in the gable on the east end was replaced about 1955 and a nine-light, single-sash window added. The barn superstructure is constructed of massive, hand-hewn oak timbers with mortise and tenon joints (a traditional structural system known as Fachwerkbau). The timbers form a three-dimensional grid which allows direct support of the roof purlins. There are, however, angle braces between many of the timbers to add strength and stability. The roof is structurally continuous over the forebay and is covered with corrugated tin sheets laid directly on the roof purlins. Local sources indicate that the roof was thatched until about 1900.

- b. Corn Crib-Wagon Shed: This drive-in structure is rectangular in plan (24'-6" X 30'-7") and contains one full story plus an attic. The attic is reached by a straight run of steps at the rear of the first floor. The floor is poured concrete with the structure itself made up of exposed, unpainted vertical planks. The perimeter of the corncrib is made up of two very long and narrow storage bins, with five columns and vertical

ventilation slats on the exterior and nine columns and horizontal ventilation slats on the interior. There is a large open space between the corn storage bins for storage of farm equipment. The floor of this space is about 3" lower than the floor of the corn storage bins to allow for drainage. Entry to the corncrib is through two large doors complete with a door within a door in the lower left of the right (south) large door. Small doors appear in each gable to allow for entry of materials to the attic. There are also two small doors at the base of the east end wall which were opened to allow the wagon tongues to protrude beyond the end wall when unloading corn into the bins. The roof is a simple gable roof sheathed with tin sections with lapped joints. An additional thin strip of tin covers the joints between the lapped tin sheets. Three trusses--one at each end and one in the center--support the roof. These trusses employ angle braces supporting purlins. All structural members are joined in mortise and tenon fashion, and are clearly numbered at the joints with Roman numerals. The corncrib is about 40' east of the farmhouse.

- c. Granary: This structure sits directly on the bank of the now defunct Union Canal bed. It is a one-and-a-half-story rectangular structure measuring 22'-2" by 15'-2". Entry is through a doorway in the northeast facade and through a wide door in the southeast gable end (for the unloading of grain from wagons). The first story is divided into five storage bins which held grain until transferred to canal boats through a door in the southwest wall. The building is frame construction and is sheathed with tongue and groove wood siding on the outside and heavy planks on the inside in order to protect the grain from the weather and rodents. The southeast end wall is stone up to the beginning of the gable, and is directly adjacent to a stone bridge pier (the bridge itself has long been demolished). The entry door on the northeast side has a simple arched window. The door in the southeast wall has a two-pane window and has been permanently fastened shut. The simple gable roof is corrugated tin sections lapped at the joints.

- d. Milk shed: The milk shed, just southwest of the barn, measures 12'-1" by 15'-3". The shed has simple stud construction, vertical tongue-and-groove wood siding, and a concrete floor. The gable roof is covered in tin with standing seams, and there is a tin ventilator in the center.
- e. Root Cellar: A root cellar (known locally as an "arch") is located about 20' northeast of the farmhouse. The masonry arched, underground structure, used to store foodstuffs at a cool temperature, measures 10'X 16' on the interior. It has a brick floor and is entered through a pair of slanting wood doors set in a concrete bulkhead.
- f. Smokehouse: A log smokehouse (measuring 9'-9" by 8'-0") is situated roughly equidistant from the house and the corncrib. This single-level, rectangular building is constructed of exposed logs with chinking of wood shims and plaster. The exterior was once plastered (now deteriorating) and covered with tin sheets. The gable roof is made of tongue and groove planking covered with modern, mineral surface asphalt shingles. A small, centrally located, wooden ventilator cupola is roofed similarly. A batten door appears on the front (north) and is surrounded by some surprisingly elaborate moldings. Long wrought-iron hinges and sturdy latches are still in place. A noticeable odor is still evident since the smokehouse was in regular use until 1972.
- g. Springhouse: This gable-roofed, rectangular structure, measuring 28'-8" across its two-bay front by 20'-8" deep, was built directly over a spring. The foundations and raised basement walls are of coursed reddish sandstone. The walls are hand-hewn logs chinked with mud. The gables of the structure are covered with clapboard as was the whole building, probably, at one time. The gable roof is covered with tin with standing seams. At the peak of the east gable there is a plaque reading "W. Wolfskill 1930." Most of the windows have six-over-six-light double hung wood sashes.

It is possible that the entire springhouse was rebuilt in 1842 using material from the original circa 1775 springhouse. This original springhouse had dovetailed corner joints and a central chimney. When rebuilt, the

springhouse was probably extended the extra 4' and the chimney was built along the new, east wall. At present, the two west corners are dovetailed and the two east corners are mortised into corner posts. There is also an intermediate post indicating the original end of the wall.

In the east end of the basement, there is a butcher's stove, flue and chimney, all dating from the twentieth century. Along the west wall, the spring runs in a concrete trough. The basement is reached from an exterior stairway in the east wall.

The upper floors of the springhouse were recently used as a summer kitchen and tenant house. The first floor is entered through a 7' deep porch, and is divided into three rooms in a similar manner as the main farmhouse. The attic is divided into two bedrooms and is reached by a winding stairway in the southeast corner of the first floor.

The names and initials of John Adam Dundore and his three sons Jacob, Benneville, and William Ernst and the date "1842" are inscribed on chinking in the interior of the springhouse.

Prepared by Thomas Kheel
Project Historian
Historic American Buildings
Survey
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PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Tulpehocken Creek Survey was undertaken in 1976 by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) and the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) in cooperation with the Philadelphia office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in compliance with Executive Order 11593 as a mitigative effort in the construction of Blue Marsh Lake. Under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, and Kenneth L. Anderson, Principal Architect, the documentation was prepared on site by project supervisor Perry Benson (University of Pennsylvania); student architects Robert E. Clarke (University of Notre Dame), Gregory Lee Miller (University of Illinois), Robert Moje (University of Virginia), Daniel F. Clancy (University of Pennsylvania), and Steven M. Shapiro (University of Maryland); and HABS project historian Thomas H. Kheel (Cornell University) and HAER project historian Stuart Campbell (University of Delaware). The drawings were completed in the HABS office in 1977 and 1978 by Mr. Clarke and HABS architects Susan M. Dornbusch and Bethanie C. Grashof. The HABS data was edited for transmittal in 1980 by Alison K. Hoagland of the HABS staff.